THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) The Report on the National Survey on the Extent, Pattern and Trends of Drug Abuse in India conducted by the Government in collaboration with United Nations Office on Drugs & Crime was released in June, 2004.

(b) Based on the findings of the Survey that there is gap between the treatment seekers and the availability of services, the Ministry has sanctioned 36 new centres during the year 2004-05, in uncovered areas to increase the coverage.

(c) The Ministry is assisting three De-addiction Centres of 15-beds and one 30-beds in Uttaranchal. More Centres could be assisted if complete proposals are received from eligible organizations.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. Allegations of charging money for treatment were received against an organization running 30-beds De-addiction Centre at Haldwani. The Centre was inspected and it was found that it is performing well and is not charging money for treatment.

Expansion of old age home network

3355. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of old age homes supported by Government in different States;

(b) whether Government have any proposal to expand the old age home network all over the country;

(c) whether it is a fact that adequate funds have not been earmarked for this activity;

(d) whether it is also a fact that a large amount of funds has been siphoned off by some NGOs during the last three year; and

(e) the steps proposed to select and support NGOs to widen the network of the old age homes all over the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) The number of old age homes supported by Ministry of Social Justice

and Empowerment in different States is available in the Ministry's website (*www.socialjustice.nic.in*).

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) No, Sir.

(e) The Ministry proposes to expand its coverage by selecting Non Governmental Organisations in un-served areas.

Schemes for handicapped persons

3356. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have announced any new programmes/ schemes for welfare of the handicapped persons during the last year;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the results achieved/proposed to be achieved therefrom; and

(c) if not, the achievements made by the existing central schemes/ programmes for welfare of the handicapped persons during the last year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) and (b) The following new programmes have been undertaken for welfare of the persons with disabilities:

(1) 16 District Disability Rehabilitation Centres (DDRCs) have been sanctioned. These centers provide the following services to persons with disabilities:

(i) Assessment, provision and fitment of needed assistive devices.

(ii) Early detection and early intervention to reduce the impact of disability.

(iii) Advice on prevention of disability.

(iv) Promotion of education, vocational training and employment;

(v) Facilitate issue of disability certificate.

(2) A Pilot project on awareness generation through television regarding various issues of disabilities has been sanctioned. The programme will be telecast in Assam, Tripura & Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar and Tamil Nadu.